# **Kulvir Jaydeep Chavda**

## My Website & Portfolio: www.kulvirchavda.com

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#### **EDUCATION, SKILLS, & COURSES**

- **Skills:** Java, Python, C++, Arduino C++, HTML/CSS/JS, ROS2, Linux/Unix, MATLAB & Simulink, Siemens NX, Fusion 360, CATIA, SolidWorks, Eagle EDA, Proteus V8, BurnSim, Computational Fluid Dynamics, Finite Element Analysis, 3D Printing, Soldering, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft PowerPoint Eager to expand my skillset.
- Taken/In-Progress: Incompressible/Compressible Flow, Aero Structures, Aero Dynamical/Control Systems, Aero Flight Mechanics, Numerical Methods, Theoretical & Applied Dynamics, Calculus & Linear Algebra, Full C.S. Core & Electives.

#### **RESEARCH & WRITING**

#### Researcher & Systems/Controls Engineer

November, 2024 – Present

# Autonomous Control, Exploration, Intelligence & Systems Lab (ACXIS) at UIUC - Dr. Hiroyasu Tsukamoto

- Designing three foundational experiments for hardware implementation, testing, and verification of autonomous threedimensional GNC algorithms in swarms of n-numbered heterogenous unmanned aerial vehicles for unmapped terrains.
- Implementing AI-based controls theory research using 5+ types of Python/ROS2 controlled S.L.A.M based UAVs/Robots.

## Researcher & First Author, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

May, 2023 – April, 2024

## Title: Using the Drag Equation and Euler's Method in Python to Predict Model Rocket Flight Trajectories

- Utilized rocket flight data (24 flights), thrust tests, & Python to write an algorithm that predicts accurate rocket trajectories.
- Conducted 25+ solid rocket-motor thrust tests to create accurate theoretical thrust curves to plug into python algorithms.
- Designed the algorithm structure and developed a Python application with a GUI (Graphical User Interface) to take user input and output graphs depicting altitude vs. time and drag force vs. time for the model rocket, both with and without drag.
- Publication awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the AIAA Region III Conference in April, 2024 (https://doi.org/10.2514/6.2024-84150).

#### WORK EXPERIENCE & ENGINEERING PROJECTS

## Aerospace Engineering R&D Intern – Summer 2024 Adani Defence & Aerospace, Ahmedabad, India

June, 2024 - August, 2024

- Conducted foundational research and design for short-range missile systems targeting drone countermeasures.
- Analyzed project requirements to create/present a detailed 2-month action plan to go from concept-to-design successfully.
- Conceptualized 3 engineering design variants for senior engineers, within 2 weeks, to kickstart project development.
- Designed the vehicle trajectory manually and modelled it using Python to gain insight on vehicle propellant necessities.
- Calculated potential propulsive & aerodynamic forces, by hand, on vehicle and optimized structure materials accordingly.
- Created six weekly design presentations to verify technical integrity/requirements & reduce manufacturing time by 20-50%
- Authored a 40-page final engineering design report outlining research, math, references, CAD/blueprints, and future steps.

## **Head of Technical Projects**

January, 2023 - Present

## Minorities in Aerospace (MAero) – University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

- Planning, advising, and recruiting engineering students for any technical initiatives undertaken by MAero.
- Leading technical project teams to design/build a High-Altitude Rocket, Sustainable Airplane, and fully 3D-Printed Drone.
- Spearheading brainstorming sessions to create design options, plan budget, and optimize technical parts lists for projects.
- Secured \$2,500 of funding from Blue Origin in my first semester & organized a research event with 5+ professors.

## **Aerospace Educational Development & Outreach**

April, 2023 – May, 2024

### Department of Aerospace Engineering – University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

- Taught 15+ STEM teachers & students in rocket science, guiding them through building, flying, and analyzing rockets.
- Built, optimized, and troubleshooted 150+ short range rockets & avionics to collect flight data & analyze trends.
- Identified and implemented course improvements through detailed surveys that improved course structure & effectiveness.

## **Project Systems Engineer**

September, 2023 – November, 2023

## Department of Defense S.T.E.M. Vertically Landed Rocket Challenge

- Built a lander that, under free fall, used a solid rocket motor to reorient and land itself from an altitude of 30m.
- Utilized UIUC's VLR parts resource & online avionics programming library to optimize our model & simulate landings.
- Achieved successful burn and recorded avionics data from an unsuccessful landing to improve design in the future.